

Data Privacy Officer Concept in Germany

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About Dr. Sebastian Kraska

- Founder of IITR GmbH: specialized in providing privacy services
- As an attorney in IT law, Dr. Kraska himself works as an external data privacy officer and assists companies and public authorities
- Together with our regional partners, we assist more than 150 companies nationwide as external data privacy officers





Data Privacy Officer Concept in Germany

- Concept of Internal Self Governance vs. Approval by the Data Protection Authority
- Companies with more than nine employees processing personal data with automated system have to appoint a Data Privacy Officer
- "The data privacy officer shall work to ensure compliance with (...) [the German Federal Data Protection] Act and with other data protection provisions." (Sec. 4g (1) 1 FDPA)
- "The obligation to notify shall not apply if the controller has appointed a data privacy officer." (Sec. 4d (2) FDPA)



External or internal Data Privacy Officer?

- Aspects of Liability (limited liability of internal Data Privacy Officer)
- Limitations to terminate an internal Data Privacy Officer
- Regular training obligations
- Complexity of privacy regulations
- Privacy Back Office



Typical Duties of the Data Privacy Officer

- Training of employees
- Privacy Impact Assessments
- Responsible for privacy policies within the company
- Support of the company with regard to privacy regulations
- Internal and external audits
- Privacy Certification
- Counterpart for privacy authorities, customers and employees



How to start with a new client?

- Setting the goals right
- Possible scenarios:
 - Meet the audit requirement of a privacy authority?
 - Privacy as part of a global compliance strategy?
 - Improving IT security?
 - Is privacy of strategic relevance for the company?
 - Do you want to support your sales team with privacy knowhow?

Topics in Focus of a Data Privacy Officer

- Privacy Trainings of employees
- Become part of internal decision making process with regard to new systems
- Outsourcing of data processing to external vendors (and corresponding audits)
- Transparency with regard to internal data flows
- Meet standard IT security requirements (preferred with external audits)



Summary/Outlook

- Data Privacy Officer supports the company in all aspects of privacy compliance
- Almost all processes within a company are based on personal data: so privacy compliance becomes more and more relevant
- Appointment requirements might change with the new General Data Protection Regulation
- With privacy regulations becoming more complex companies have an increased interest in privacy consulting



Questions?

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